

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore) voted against the Conference Report on H.R. 3222, the Fiscal Year 2008 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, honoring a pledge he made in August not to support more war funding unless it is for withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq.

“Today I had no choice but to vote against the Defense Appropriations bill. 2007 has become the deadliest year yet for American soldiers in Iraq,” said Congressman Blumenauer. “Instead of winding down, this nightmare continues to escalate. I will do everything I can to bring the war to an end, and that means honoring my pledge to vote against any further funding for the Iraq war unless it is used for immediate troop redeployment.”

Congressman Blumenauer has opposed the Iraq war from the start. In January he introduced his own legislation, “The New Direction for Iraq Act of 2007,” which would require the redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq, a new diplomatic offensive to stabilize Iraq and aggressive efforts at oversight and accountability.